OIPE
OCT 04 2004
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 49599/278086

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Knight, Thomas

Serial No.: 10/685,670 — Art Unit: 2125

Filed: October 14, 2003 — Examiner: Bahta, Kidest

For:

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR IMPROVING PLANNING, SCHEDULING, AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

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Steve Kennedy

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Amendements
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

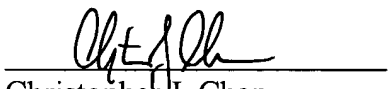
In accordance with Rules 56, 97 and 98 of the Rules of Practice in Patent Cases (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98), the patent publications listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 are submitted for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of all foreign patent references and/or non-patent literature documents are enclosed.

10/06/2004 AWONDAF1 00000065 10685670
01 FC:1806 180.00 OP

Submission of the references provided in this Information Disclosure is not intended to constitute an admission that any reference referred to herein is prior art for this invention unless specially designated as such. Also, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made, or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

Our check in the amount of $180.00 is enclosed for payment of the fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J. Chan
Reg. No. 44,070

Date: September 30, 2004

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
Suite 2800, 1100 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4530
(404) 815-6494

Attorney Docket No.: 49599/278086

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/685,670
Filing Date	October 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Knight, T.
Art Unit	2125
Examiner Name	Bahta, K.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 7	Attorney Docket Number: 49599/278086

ENCLOSURES *(check all that apply)*

- ☒ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☒ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment / Reply
  - ☐ After Final
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
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- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____
- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group **(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)**
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Other Enclosure(s) *(please identify below)*:
  - **-SB/08 Prior art list**
  - **-Return Postcard**
  - **-30 Publications**

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	**CHRISTOPHER J. CHAN, Reg. No. 44,070**
Signature	
Date	**September 30, 2004**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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PTO/SB/17 (10-03)
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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT ($) **180.00**

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/685,670
Filing Date	October 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Knight, T.
Examiner Name	Bahta, K.
Art Unit	2125
Attorney Docket No.	49599/278086

METHOD OF PAYMENT *(check all that apply)*

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☐ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number: **11-0855**

Deposit Account Name: **Kilpatrick Stockton LLP**

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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filling fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) ($)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

			Extra Claims		Fee from below		Fee Paid
Total Claims		-20 **	=	X		=	
Independent Claims		-3 **	=	X		=	
Multiple Dependent				X		=	

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) ($)

***or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above*

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive – unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive – unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	180.00
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) ($) 180.00

SUBMITTED BY					Complete *(if applicable)*
Name (Print/Type)	Christopher J. Chan	*Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)*	44,070	*Telephone*	(404)815-6500
Signature				*Date*	September 30 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 4

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/685,670
Filing Date	October 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Knight, T.
Art Unit	2125
Examiner Name	Bahta, K.
Attorney Docket Number	49599/278086

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No.[1]	Document Number: Number - Kind Code[2] (if known)	Publication Date MM-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document: Country Code[3] - Number[4] - Kind Code[5] (if known)	Publication Date MM-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[2]
	1	Allen, C., "The Impact of Network Topology on Rational Function Models of the Cycle-time Throughput Curve", Honors Thesis, Department of Industrial Engineering, Northwestern University, 2003.	
	2	Asbjoern M., Bonvik, Yves Dallery, and Stanley B. Gershwin, ``Approximate analysis of production systems operated by a CONWIP/finite buffer hybrid control policy," *International Journal of Production Research*, Volume 38, No. 13, pp. 2845-2869.	
	3	Bitran, G., and Tirupati, D., "Tradeoff Curves, Targeting and Balancing in Manufacturing Queuing Networks", Operations Research, 37:4, (1989), 547-564.	
	4	Domaschke, J., Robinson, J., Leibl, F., "Effective Implementation of Cycle Time Reduction Strategies for Semi Conductor Back End Manufacturing", Proceedings of the 1998 Winter Simulation Conference, 985-1010.	
	5	Enns, S., and Choi, S., "Use of GI/G/1 Queuing Approximations to Set Tactical Parameters for the Simulation of MRP Systems", Proceedings of the 2002 Winter Simulation Conference, 1123-1129.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

[1] Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). [2] Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet 2 of 4

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Application Number	10/685,670
Filing Date	October 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Knight, T.
Art Unit	2125
Examiner Name	Bahta, K.
Attorney Docket Number	49599/278086

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	6	Framian, J., Ruiz-Usano, R., and Leisten,R., "Sequencing CONWIP flow-shops: analysis and Heuristics", International Journal of Production Research,	
	7	Gerwal, N., Bruska, A., Wulf, T., and Robinson, J., "Integrating Targeted Cycletime Reduction into the Capital Planning Process", Proceedings of the 1998 Winter Simulation Conference, 1005-1008.	
	8	GR Bitran and R. Morabito, "An Overview of Tradeoff Curves in Manufacturing Systems Design," Production & Operations Management, Vol. 8, No. 1, 56-75, 1999	
	9	Homem-de-Mello, T., Shapiro, A., and Spearman, M., "Finding Optimal Material release Times Using Simulation based Optimization", Management Science, 45:1 (1999), 86- 102.	
	10	Hopp, W., and Roof, M., "Setting WIP levels with Statistical Throughput Control in CONWIP Production Lines", International Journal of Production Research, 36:4 (1998), 867-882.	
	11	Hopp, W., Spearman, M., Chayet, S., Donohoe, K., and Gel, E., "Using an Optimized Queuing Network Model to Support Wafer Fab Design", IIE Transactions, 34:2, (2002), 119-130.	
	12	WJ Hopp, ML Spearman. "Factory Physics: Foundations of Manufacturing Management," pp. 213-243 and 248-283. New York: McGraw Hill, 1997.	
	13	Johnson, R., Yang, F., Ankenman, B., and N. Nelson, "Nonlinear Regression Fits for Simulated Cycle Time Vs Throughput Curves for Semiconductor Manufacturing", Proceedings of the 2004 Winter Simulation Conference,	
	14	Kuik, R., and P.F.J. Tielemans, "Analysis of Expected Queueing Delays for Decision Making in Production Planning," *European Journal of Operational Research* **110** (1998), 658-681	
	15	Louw, L. and Page, D.C. "Queueing network analysis approach for estimating the sizes of the time buffers in Theory of Constraints-controlled production systems", International Journal of Production research, 42:6, (2004), 1207-1226	
	16	M. Ettl and M. Schwehm (1994): `A Design Methodology for Kanban-Controlled Production Lines Using Queuing Networks and Genetic Algorithms' In: Tenth Int. Conf. System Engineering ICSE`94 in Coventry, UK, Coventry University Press, pp. 307-314	

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Sheet 3 of 4

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Filing Date	**October 14, 2003**
First Named Inventor	**Knight, T.**
Art Unit	**2125**
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Attorney Docket Number	**49599/278086**

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	17	McNeil, J., Mackulak, G., and Fowler, J., "Indirect Estimation of Cycletime Quantiles from Discrete Event Simulation Models Using the Cornish-Fisher Expansion", Proceedings of the 2003 Winter Simulation Conference", 1377-1382.	
	18	Nazazal, D., and Mollaghesemi, M., "Critical Tools Identification and Characteristic Curve Construction in a Wafer Fabrication Facility", Proceedings of the 2001 Winter Simulation Conference, 1194- 1199.	
	19	P. B. Luh, X. Zhou, and R. N. Tomastik, "An Effective Method to Reduce Inventory in Job Shops (PDF format)," *IEEE Transactions on Robotics and Automation, Vol.* 16, No. 4, August 2000, pp 420-424	
	20	Park, S., Mackulak, G., and Fowler. J., "An Overall Framework for Generating Simulation Based Cycle Time Throughput Curves", Proceedings of the 2001 Winter Simulation Conference, 1178-1187.	
	21	Potoradi, J., Winz, G., and Kam, L., "Determining Optimal Lot Size for a Semiconductor Back-End Factory", in Proceedings of the 1999 Winter Simulation Conference, pp. 720 – 726.	
	22	Rose, O., "CONLOAD – A New Lot Release Rule for Semiconductor Wafer Fabs", in Proceedings of the 1999 Winter Simulation Conference, pp. 850 – 855.	
	23	Ryan, S. M. and J. Vorasayan. 2004. "Allocating work in process in a multiple-product CONWIP system with lost sales." Forthcoming in International Journal of Production Research.	
	24	Ryan, SM, B. Baynat, and F. Choobineh, "Determining Inventory Levels in a CONWIP Controlled Job Shop," IIE Transaction, Vol. 32, pp. 105-114, 2000	
	25	Segal, M. and Whitt, W., "A Queueing Network Analyzer for Manufacturing", in Teletraffic Science for New Cost Effective Systems, ITC-12, 1989, p. 1146-1152.	
	26	Spearman, M., Woodruff, D., and Hopp, W., "CONWIP: a pull alternative to kanban", International Journal of Production Research, 28:5 (1990), 879-894.	
	27	Vandaele, N., De Boeck, L., and Calleweir, D., "An Open Queuing Network for Lead Time Analysis", IIE Transactions, 34 (2002), pp.1-9	

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Sheet 4 of 4

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Attorney Docket Number	**49599/278086**

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T [2]
	28	Whitt, W., "The Queuing Network Analyzer," *Bell Sys. Tech.* J. **62**:9 (1983), 2779-2815	
	29	Yang, F., Ankenman, B., and B. Nelson, "Efficient Generation of Cycle-Time Throughput Curves through Simulation and Metamodeling", Department of Industrial Engineering Working Paper, Northwestern University, 2004.	
	30	Zipkin, Paul H. "Foundations of Inventory Management," pp. 295-349. New York: McGraw Hill, 2000.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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